

Keep the Element 1 code test requirement for HF privileges. I have been a ham for less than a year and work almost all morse code CW now. Also, I just built a QRP CW kit radio to improve my skills and enhance my ability to provide portable, battery operated world-wide communications in times of emergency. If I had not been required to pass the Element 1 exam, then I would not have even attempted any morse code CW mode operation. Only by having a basic code test, such as Element 1, will this traditional amateur radio communications mode be "discovered" by new hams such as myself. Therefore, I urge you to retain the Element 1 code requirement as it is and reject the petition. Thank you, (signed), Kenneth Stovesand - N4OI